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HURRICANES IRMA AND MARIA MANAGEMENT REPORT

Information contained in this report reflects HQ and regional reporting from the most recently completed operational period as well as other reports provided by HQ, regional and interagency sources.

National Incident Management Objectives

Objective 1: Ensure that health and safety of the EPA responders is considered at all times.

Objective 2: Establish an incident management structure and processes employing the Incident Command System to enable effective overall management of the event with deployment of resources (staff and equipment) in a rapid, aggressive and well-coordinated manner.

Objective 3: Ensure prompt Review and Processing of Fuel Waiver requests.

Objective 4: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment of Industrial facilities as requested by the State or under EPA's statutory program responsibilities for CERCLA Superfund, RMP and FRP facilities. Working with our state partners, contact industrial sources within the impacted area to determine their operational status and determine what support can be provided with the monitoring of the start-up of industrial sources.

Objective 5: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment & Technical Assistance Drinking Water & Wastewater facilities as requested by the State or local government. EPA will support our state partners in contacting drinking water and waste water systems.

Objective 6: Prepare a Sustained Response Plan that outlines the resource and equipment needs for a long duration response.

Objective 7: Activate the Agency's Crisis Communication Plan to ensure effective and efficient coordination of all incident communications.

Objective 8: Encourage a collaborative federalism approach, where national, state and local governments interact cooperatively and collectively to solve common problems.

Objective 9: Begin Agency internal and external coordination under the National Disaster Recovery Framework regarding Recovery Support Functions in which EPA is likely to be involved.

Executive Summary

Region 2

- Shower and thunderstorm chances will increase from October 5th-6th, with the threat of heavy downpours and cloud to ground lightning with the potential to impact response and recovery operations. Hot temperatures can be expected over the next several days with highs near 90 degrees and heat indices near 100 degrees could cause heat-related issues to those vulnerable. Tropical Storm Nate, in the southwest Caribbean, is not expected to have any impact on PR.
- Immediate risk reduction measures are ongoing on October 5th to stabilize the Guajataca dam spillway and clear outlet blockage. 230,000 people rely on the dam for their source of drinking water. Reservoir pool rises may be possible at the Guajataca Dam given forecasted showers and thunderstorms.
- R2's Caribbean Environmental Protection Division (CEPD) Guaynabo office opened on October 2nd. Offices on Vieques and St. Thomas remain closed
- While in PR yesterday, October 3rd, EPA Administrator Pruitt met with Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) Secretary Tania Vazquez. Vice President Pence will be traveling to PR and the USVI on October 6th and will be accompanied by PR Resident Commissioner Jennifer Gonzalez
- Power remains out for over 90% of the residents of PR and USVI. Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA) expects 15% of customers will have power restored by October 21st.
- In PR, according to Puerto Rico Aqueducts Sewer Authority (PRASA), 51 to 52% of the PRASA-served population are without access to drinking water (DW) service. PR has an island-wide boil-water order.
- The waste water (WW) treatment plants on all three USVI islands are operational but have limited pumping capacity due to lack of commercial power.
- On St. Croix, commercial flights begin October 5th. On St. Thomas, airport is open and receiving commercial flights.
- The Health and Social Services Recovery Support Function Coordinator asked EPA to do a full Environmental Justice analysis for all islands; data on DW and WW facilities connected with/to health care facilities, and a list of superfund/brownfield sites situated near health care facilities.
- PR Governor Rosselló agrees with Moody Analytics estimate that PR damages due to Hurricane Maria is approximately \$95 billion.

Region 4

This section was not updated on October 5th. The next update will occur on Friday, October 6th.

- The current schedule for management reports from R4 is Tuesday and Friday.
- Mission Assignment funding for EPA Landfill Specialty Teams expired on October 3rd.
- Four EPA field teams composed of On Scene Coordinators (OSCs), Superfund Remedial Project Managers (RPMs), and contractors deployed to Florida on September 25th, and established a forward command center in Marathon Key.
- As of October 3rd, the EPA Container Recovery Group has collected 126 items (e.g., drums, oil containers, and propane tanks). These items are being temporarily stored at the Florida Keys Marathon International Airport container staging area.
- As of October 3rd, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Region 4 Water Protection Division have completed their ESF-3 water infrastructure assessment mission. A total of 2,227 assessments of DW and WW facilities were conducted.

Regional Mission Assignments and Funding

EPA Region	Mission Assignment Number	Funding Amount	Description of Assignment
Region 2	4339DR-PR-EPA-04	\$6,000,000	To deploy personnel to coordinate and execute all necessary assessments, evaluations, sampling and analysis services/support and other necessary actions associated with ensuring the safety and quality of DW and WW systems, in support of PRASA, Puerto Rico Department of Health (PRDH).
	4339DR-PR-EPA-03*	\$10,000,000	Removal, cleanup and disposal of oil & hazmat; collect and dispose of HHW; monitor immediate threats to public H&S and the environment in PR.
	VI-17090102-EPA-01	(\$10,000)	Expired
	4335DR-VI-EPA-01	\$100,000	Activate EPA to FEMA R2 RRC in Colts Neck, NJ to support FEMA and FEMA NRCC.
	4335DR-VI-EPA-02	\$1,008,000	To perform assessment of oil and hazardous materials releases, contaminated debris and other environmental events in USVI.
	4335DR-VI-EPA-04	\$10,000,000	Conduct oil and hazardous materials field operations, including cleanup and disposal of hazardous materials and oil, and response to orphaned containers in order to mitigate actual and potential threats to public health and safety.
	4335DR-VI-EPA-06	\$2,000,000	EPA provides support preparing for site-specific platforms for situational awareness; environmental data management; operational deployment plans; documentation of assessment activities and results; resource and financial tracking, accountability and cost documentation.
	PR-17090102-EPA-01	(\$20,000)	Expired
	3384EM-PR-EPA-01	(\$75,000)	Expired
	4336DR-PR-EPA-01	\$100,000	Activate EPA to FEMA R2 RRCC and other EOCs.
	4336DR-PR-EPA-02	\$1,008,000	To perform assessment and reconnaissance of oil and hazardous materials release, contaminated debris and storm impacted infrastructure which may pose a threat to federal responders as well as environmental harm in PR.
Region 4	4337DR-FL-EPA-05	\$90,000	Activation for appropriate EPA personnel to perform the functions of ESF-10 w/ RRCC, IOF, JFO, FEMA's Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT), Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) Team, or other teams and locations, at the direction and coordination of FEMA.
	4337DR-FL-EPA-03	\$525,000	Activate Federal Hazardous Assessment Response Team w/resource support to conduct assessments at hazardous substances within R4.

EPA Region	Mission Assignment Number	Funding Amount	Description of Assignment
	4337DR-FL-EPA-04	\$9,000,000	Provide oil and hazardous material field response in support of FEMA response operations providing specialized expertise, conducting damage assessment of oil/hazmat waste impact evaluating hazards; and/or response, removal, or disposal of: actual and potential oil discharges, and releases of hazardous substances, pollutants and contaminants and remove pollutants from vessels in or upon navigable waters and adjoining shorelines.
	4337DR-FL-EPA-07	\$675,000	Provide funding for EPA Landfill Specialty Teams through October 3.
	4337DR-FL-USGC-05	\$10,000,000	EPA will provide oil, hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants field response and recovery actions in support of FEMA response and recovery operations.
Total	\$50,506,000		

*A signed mission assignment task order documenting the additional taskings requested by the PR Solid Waste Authority was received.

Number of Regional Personnel Involved in Response

Type	R2 Personnel	R4 Personnel	Total Regional Personnel
EPA	132	27	159
Contractors	41	14	55
Totals	174*	41	215

**Includes one Coast Guard employee stationed in Edison, NJ*

Force Laydown for USVI* and PR (as reported by Region 2 on October 4th)

Type	Personnel USVI	Personnel PR	Total Deployment
EPA	12	45	58
Contractors	8	12	20
Totals	20	57	78

**St. John is currently not accessible to EPA responders.*

Region 2 Significant Activities

Superfund and Oil Sites

- R2 estimates that there are 1,700 active and temporarily closed underground storage tank (USTs) facilities in PR.
- As reported on October 4th, the Regulated Facility Team (RFT) continues efforts to contact significant Risk Management Plan (RMP), Facility Response Plans (FRP), and Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) regulated facilities that have not yet responded to the post-storm assessment via email or by phone. Several significant RMP, FRP, and SPCC companies in PR and the USVI, such as Puma, PRASA, Total, and Water and Power Authority (WAPA) have preliminarily reported no damage to oil, chemical, or flammable operations.
- There are 34 Superfund and oil sites (30 in PR and 4 in USVI). EPA personnel conducted preliminary assessments at five Superfund and one Oil Response Site to determine if the sites were impacted by Hurricane Maria and if there is a potential for contamination to cause off-site impacts. The Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC) is contacting the RPMs for each site and working with Emergency and Remedial Response Division.

SUPERFUND SITES (NPL, Removal and Oil)						
Site	Type	Phase 1:	Phase 2		Phase 3	All Phases Completed
		Post-Storm Assessment	Site Inspection Needed	Inspected	Additional Response Action	
PUERTO RICO						
Arecibo Battery Recycling Co.	Removal & NPL*	09/22/2017	No	09/22/2017	No	09/22/2017
Corozal Battery	Removal & NPL*	09/24/2017	No	09/24/2017	No	09/24/2017
Puma Caribe (CAPECO)	Oil Response	09/21/2017	No	09/25/2017	No	09/25/2017
Papelera Puertorriquena, Inc.	NPL	09/29/2017	Under review			
Juncos Landfill	NPL	09/30/2017	Under review			
Upjohn Facility	NPL	09/30/2017	Under review			

SUPERFUND SITES (NPL, Removal and Oil)						
Vega Alta Public Supply Wells	NPL	09/30/2017	Under review			
USVI						
Krum Bay Oil Spill at WAPA Facility	Oil	10/1/2017	No	10/1/2017	No	10/1/2017

* These are Sites that have both a Removal and Remedial program action. Only one assessment will be conducted per Site.

Regulated Facilities in USVI

- EPA OSCs in USVI continue to conduct damage assessments at EPA regulated facilities.
- In USVI, six assessments were completed October 3rd. One of the 18 total assessed regulated facilities requires follow up action.
- In St. Thomas, EPA conducted eight facility assessments, with zero found to be damaged.
- In St. Croix, EPA inspected the medical waste storage area at the Juan Luis Hospital in Christiansted. Approximately 50,000 pounds of waste requires packaging and disposal. EPA expects a work assignment will be added to an existing MA from either ESF-3 or ESF-8.
- EPA met with the Roy Lester Schneider Hospital representative handling medical waste. Any request for EPA assistance with the handling and disposal of medical waste on St. Thomas will be coordinated through the EOC on St. Croix.

Regulated Facilities in PR

- In PR, assessments at two regulated facilities are complete, neither of which requires follow up action. On October 3rd, eight facilities were assessed but communications remain degraded impacting data transfer and assessment completion.

Drinking Water / Wastewater (DW/WW) Assessments in USVI

- EPA continues to coordinate with Virgin Islands Waste Management Authorities (VIWMA) to complete assessments of all WW facilities. Most facilities assessed to date either need a generator to power the facility or fuel for the facility. No further action has been requested of EPA at this time.
- The Ocean Systems labs on St. Thomas and St. Croix are functioning under generator power. As of October 4th, the Krum Bay (St. Thomas) and Estate Richmond (St. Croix) microbiology laboratories are now operational for drinking water analysis.
- DPNR plans to initiate a 3-month alternative drinking water monitoring procedure, and will re-evaluate the need to continue at the end of the 3-month period. The monitoring procedure will shift from compliance monitoring to surveillance monitoring, with focus on bacteria and chlorine. A boil water advisory remains in place across the USVI.
- USVI is building additional water storage and working on restoring DW service:
 - St. Croix: The Richmond storage has a four-day supply of water. WAPA is pumping at full capacity at both the Contentment and Concordia pump stations. Water service is ongoing at Frederiksted; however, the pressure remains low until more water can be pumped into the Kingshill storage tank.

- St. Thomas: There are four days of emergency water storage on St. Thomas. WAPA expects to resume potable water service to Savan, Contant Knolls and Lindbergh Bay this week. Areas of Altona, Bergs Home, Government Hill, Estate Thomas, Lindbergh Bay and Havensight have all had potable water service restored.
- St. John: There are four days of emergency water storage in St. John. Water service is available throughout the Cruz Bay area.

Drinking Water and Wastewater Assessments on USVI* (as of October 3, 2017)		
Assessment Types	Daily Assessments	Total Assessments
On-Site DW Assessments	15	74
On-Site WW Assessments	0	0
<i>*On-site assessment of drinking water or wastewater facilities is a site visit to a facility to determine operating status and overall needs (i.e.; power, treatment chemicals, fuel for generators).</i>		

St. Croix

- Reported on October 3rd, EPA and USVI Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) drinking water teams assessed 101 of 161 total (62%) public water systems in St. Croix and tested the 66 that were still functional; of 26 testing positive for coliform, 12 were disinfected or otherwise brought back into compliance, remaining 15 require follow-up from DPNR and EPA.
- On October 3rd, 13 drinking water samples were collected from non-WAPA sources. DPNR resampled five facilities which had previously tested positive for E. coli and had performed disinfection measures on their systems.
- EPA continues to coordinate drinking water sampling with DPNR. DPNR continues to notify the proprietors of the affected systems to ensure proper disinfection measures are taken.

Public Water System Sampling on St. Croix				
Total Public Water Systems on St Croix sampled to date	Total number of samples to date	Total systems assessed to date	Total number of systems resampled after positive E. coli	Total number of systems with negative E. coli results after resampling
66	75	101	12	12

St. Thomas and St. John

- On October 2nd, three drinking water samples were collected from WAPA supplied water sources. EPA continues to coordinate drinking water sampling with DPNR. Samples arrived at the Ocean Systems Lab on St. Thomas for bacterial analysis. EPA continues to coordinate with DPNR to prioritize drinking water facilities to be assessed and sampled.
- As reported October 1st, EPA met with WAPA personnel to discuss oil spill issues near a WAPA drinking water intake in Krum Bay, St. Thomas. The oil spill is originating from sunken and partially sunken vessels in Krum Bay. WAPA has boomed off the drinking water intake and collects samples of the drinking water supply on a regular basis. As of October 2nd, sample analysis has indicated the water system has not been impacted by the oil spill. EPA is meeting with the USCG to discuss further prevention and remediation strategies for the mitigation of the oil spill.

Drinking Water / Wastewater (DW/WW) Assessments in PR

- In PR, six DW laboratories are operational, one is under assessment, one has water damage, and seven are unknown.
- PRASA facility assessments are ongoing and 12 EPA staff are participating in PRASA facility assessments.
 - Out of PRASA's 51 facilities, 21 wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) are non-operational, 13 of which are upstream of a drinking water intake. These facilities represent a very high priority for assessment and repair. Most of the out-of-service WWTPs are not receiving any sewage due to collapsed trunk sewers or main pump stations with operational problems.
 - Assessments are complete at around 70% of PRASA's 800 pump stations. As of October 5th, at least 250 sanitary pump stations are overflowing sewage due to lack of power, malfunctioning power generator or pumping problems. Of these 215 pump stations, 97 are located upstream of a water supply intake.
 - PR's largest pump station, Torrecillas Pump Station, suffered major damages due to flooding.
 - 30 WWTPs are working on alternate power.
 - EPA and the PR Environmental Quality Board (EQB) plan to have physically assessed all of the island's WWTPs and pumping stations by October 13th.
- PRASA reported to CEPD that all hospitals are either connected to active DW service or are receiving water from water tanker trucks.
- There are 297 non-PRASA drinking water facilities that serve approximately 4% of the PR populations (PRASA systems service the other 96%).
 - On October 2nd, the Non-PRASA water assessment team conducted system assessments in the communities of Caguas and San Lorenzo. Results of these assessments pends the receipt of reports and data.
 - As of October 3rd, the teams had assessed 18 facilities.
 - On October 4th, EPA and PRDOH met to coordinate the deployment of Assessment Teams in the upcoming days. Details of proposed visit schedule was sent to EPA R2 PR Incident Coordinator.
- One assessment team conducted an assessment of the EQB laboratory to determine support actions and work required to bring it into service. In a meeting with the Secretary of DNER/President of EQB Tania Vazquez, information on potential EPA support for EQB Laboratory was requested. Laboratory needs include equipment and quality assurance systems. The EQB laboratory can provide support to PRASA and PRDOH laboratories that were destroyed by Hurricane Maria.
- On October 6th, EPA will meet with FEMA, USACE, and PRASA to discuss PRASA infrastructure emergency improvement needs.

PR Air Monitoring Activities

- The EQB plans to conduct an assessment on the conditions of the ambient air monitoring network. The network went offline prior to Hurricane Maria's landfall. There is no update or information on the status or damages. EQB will staff an assessment team once their employees are able to return. R2's CEPD Guaynabo office opened on October 2nd.

Debris Recovery

On PR

- On October 4th, EPA met again with FEMA, USACE, EQB, the Solid Waste Management Authority (SWMA), and private contractors to discuss and provide comments on a plan to establish six regional debris collection and processing centers. EQB approved a resolution to allow the disposal of construction debris and wet debris at nine specific landfills. USACE and contractors are requesting a waiver from EQB to use thermal reduction system (box burners) to be discussed at later meetings. Contractors presented proposed staging locations in PR and are requesting information from local and federal agencies to ensure environmental compliance.

- Municipalities report a large amount of clandestine dumps in their communities. They are concerned with public health and environmental impacts. These dumps continue to be reported on October 5th.

On USVI

- EPA attended a debris management meeting with FEMA, USACE and VIWMA. VIWMA requested EPA assistance with the handling and transportation and disposal of household hazardous waste and the handling and/or preparation of electronics-waste and white goods for disposal. The scope of work of the debris management assistance request is being finalized and will be submitted to FEMA for addition on EPA's existing MA.
- In St. Croix, an EPA OSC takes part in the daily Debris Management meetings. EPA will advise on air monitoring and/or sampling protocols associated with the burning of debris. Work continues to develop a debris management plan. As of October 2nd, there was no decision made on whether there will be burn operations.
- According to the October 2nd R2 Management Report, FEMA indicated that EPA assistance may be requested for medical waste issues resulting from the re-establishment of medical facilities on St. Croix and St. Thomas.

Orphan Container and Pollution Response

- As of October 5th, two hazard evaluations are open on USVI with none closed. No hazard evaluations have yet occurred on PR.
- No orphan containers are yet reported for USVI or PR.

Region 4 Significant Activities

Due to the new reporting schedule, this section will not be updated again until Friday, October 6th.

- The USACE and the Water Protection Division completed their field mission to assist the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) assessments of drinking water and wastewater facilities. The Facility Assessment Support Team (FAST) completed phone assessments of 964 wastewater facilities and 1,255 drinking water systems. Field teams visited eight water and wastewater facility sites and provided technical assistance to operators as needed.
- The Air, Pesticides, and Toxics Management Division reports that, as of September 27th, all 100 ambient air monitoring stations in Florida are operational. Four monitoring sites, however, are not yet reporting valid data due to calibrations issues.

Orphan Container and Pollution Response in FL

- As of October 3rd, the EPA Container Recovery Group has recovered 126 items, including drums, oil containers, and propane tanks. These items are temporarily stored at the Florida Keys Marathon International Airport container staging area.
- EPA personnel integrated into Unified Command and continue land-based assessments in the inland zone of Monroe County. Areas assessed included Marathon, Islamorada, Boca Chica, and Pine Keys, and the Naval Air Station Key West.

EPA Container Assessment Targets (Identified to Date—Florida Keys)			
USCG Sector	Targets Identified/Assessed	Targets Completed*	Targets Remaining
Key West	109	29	80
*Removed or determined no further action necessary			

Drinking Water / Wastewater (DW/WW) Assessments in FL

As of October 3rd, the USACE and the Region 4 Water Protection Division completed their ESF-3 water infrastructure assessment mission, with a total of 2,227 drinking water and wastewater facility assessments conducted.

Status of Community Drinking Water Systems (CWS) and Total Population Served in Florida (as of October 2 nd)				
	Large CWS (Over 3,300)		Small CWS (under 3,300)	
	# Systems	Population Served	# Systems	Population Served
Operational:	395	19,210,964	1,192	686,366
Partially Operational:	1	77,500	14	12,923
Non Operational:	0	0	3	155
Unknown:	0	0	34	10,916
Totals:	396	19,288,464	1,243	710,360
Boil Water Notices	30 Active			

Number and Status of POTWs within Florida (as of October 2 nd)			
	NPDES Permitted Facilities		State Permits (Non-NPDES)
	POTW	Non-POTW (Industrial)	
Operational:	141	242	1,783
Partially Operational:	1	1	32
Non Operational:	0	0	88
Unknown:	0	0	105
Totals:	145	243	2,008

Debris Recovery in FL

- Landfill Technical Specialists from the Resource Conservation and Recovery Division mobilized to the Keys on September 27th. As of October 3rd, the team has visited 10 disaster debris management sites (DDMSs) and observed no issues at six of the 10 sites. Issues identified include containers with suspected hazardous material comingled with non ESF-10 debris and debris staged too close to residential areas and/or wetlands. Landfill Specialty Teams (LSTs) removed potential hazmat containers during the site inspections. The LSTs referred siting issues to FDEP for follow-up action.

- The LSTs also visited three staging areas on the way to DDMS visits.
- The LSTs will not be involved in the physical collection or disposal of ESF-10 materials.

EPA Headquarters Significant Activities

- The HQ EOC is activated to Level 1 in support of EPA Region 2 and Region 4 responses to Maria and Irma. The HQ EOC is coordinating on several levels with EPA R2, EPA R4, and other Federal agencies. The HQ EOC deployed personnel to the FEMA NRCC's ESF-10 desk. EPA Senior Management on the Policy Coordination Committee (PCC) developed and issued senior management objectives that form the basis of field strategy and tactics in response to Maria and Irma.

Personnel	AO	OAR	OARM	OCFO	OCSPP	OECA	OEI	OGC	OLEM	ORD	OW	PIO	ATSDR	Totals
Employees	0	4	0	0	1	1	1	0	7	0	1	1	0	16
Contractors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	0	4	0	0	1	1	1	0	8	0	1	1	0	17

Other EPA Activities

OECA Civil/CID

- EPA-CID/NCERT agents (Criminal Investigation Division/National Criminal Enforcement Response Team) are currently supporting Hurricane Maria response in USVI and PR under ESF-10. There are 20 NCERT/CID Special Agents deployed to PR and USVI in addition to two Special Agents stationed in PR. EPA-CID/NCERT is not currently supporting ESF-13 for Hurricane Maria but all agents are providing law enforcement intelligence and liaison, and providing security escorts to EPA teams. **There are reports of thefts of fuel and generators.**
- R2 expects to receive *force majeure* claims from a number of Puerto Rico government entities and utilities, and the Municipality of San Juan and Municipality of Arecibo for obligations under existing Clean Water Act consent decrees with EPA, as well as one from the PREPA for compliance with a 1999 Clean Air Act consent decree. EPA evaluates those claims as soon as they are received and takes appropriate action.
- Accumulation of Hazardous Waste On-site Waiver
 - On September 29th, R2 granted a 30-day extension of the 90-day limit on the accumulation of hazardous waste on-site to Johnson & Johnson and Lilly del Caribe Inc. in PR. The two companies are large quantity generators and have informed EPA that because of impacts from the hurricanes, it is currently not possible to make hazardous waste shipments out of PR. It is possible that similar requests will be received from other companies.
- No Action Assurances (NAA)
 - On October 2nd, EPA issued a No Action Assurance to Merck, Sharp & Dohme Corp. for the use of four emergency generators located at its Las Piedras, PR facility.
 - On September 27th Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) issued an amended NAA concerning the importation, sale, donation or distribution of mobile power generators in PR to increase the number of generators available for use during the recovery from the devastation of Hurricane Maria.
 - On September 27th OECA issued an NAA concerning the importation, sale, donation or distribution of mobile power generators in the USVI.

- On September 21st, OECA issued three NAAs, extending Florida's existing NAAs for truck loading, vapor recovery, and roof landing until October 6th. Additionally, they issued an extension to the waiver for red-dyed diesel fuel until October 6th.
- Orders
 - On September 26th, EPA waived diesel fuel requirements to minimize and prevent disruptions in the supply of diesel fuel for mobile non-road generators and pumps used for emergency purposes in PR effective immediately through October 15th.
 - On September 23rd, R2 issued an emergency order to FEMA and DOD to provide drinking water treatment services on the USVI. The Order terminates on October 8th. EPA is in discussions with DoD and FEMA about replacing the order with a letter or, if appropriate, determining that the units are no longer needed. FEMA and DOD are working to deploy four treatment units to St. Croix.
 - EPA HQ, Region 4 and the State of Florida are working to evaluate and respond to additional fuel waiver extension requests.

Communications

- R2, R4, and HQ activities related to Irma and Maria response efforts are available at: <http://www.epa.gov/hurricane-irma> and www.epa.gov/hurricane-maria, respectively.
- The Region 2 Public Affairs Director, PIO and Assistant PIOs continue to coordinate with CDC on messaging, particularly the messages on dangers of contaminated flood waters.
- Region 2 has three Community Involvement Coordinators (CICs) assisting the assessment teams in Puerto Rico as of October 3rd. R2 is expecting up to eight additional bi-lingual CICs—11 total—to be called up for deployment to Puerto Rico.
- Office of Public Affairs continues to issue daily Hurricane Maria news releases. The Hurricane Maria news releases are translated to Spanish, posted online, and distributed widely by the PIO.

Congressional Inquiries

- Senior Leadership from EPA Regions 2, 4 and 6 have been requested to appear at a briefing for members and staff of the House Energy & Commerce Committee on Friday, October 13th. The purpose is “to articulate an assessment of the damage to air (RMP and NAAQS), drinking water, soil (including RCRA and CERCLA issues), progress made to remedy that damage, a plan to respond to such remaining damage, and any challenges to remediation.” State officials from Texas and Florida have been invited (but there is no indication that PR or USVI officials have been invited).
- Staff from Congressman Brian Mast contacted EPA HQ to inquire whether EPA field personnel could meet with the Congressman this week to discuss Irma related water quality issues. HQ forwarded the request to the Regional Administrator's office. Originally scheduled for September 27th, this meeting is being rescheduled.
- As reported by R2's October 1st Management Report, EPA responded to a request that FEMA received from a Vermont Congressman for information on the safety and distribution of water from 4 cisterns on Vieques. EPA provided guidance from Centers for Disease Control and EPA on cistern disinfection and making drinking water safe following natural disaster.